

Description of Additional Supplementary Files

File name: Supplementary Data 1

Description: GO terms significantly enriched in each of the WGCNA modules. Significance was calculated with a Fisher test within the R package topGO (Alexa, A. & Rahnenfuhrer, J. 2016) by comparing the frequency of GO terms within a module to their frequency within all genes.

File name: Supplementary Data 2

Description: Gene expression during queen maturation. Table representing standardized gene expression at each of the five queen stages (QT0-QT4). Number of replicates per group is provided in Supplementary Table 1. Annotations include WGCNA module (moduleColor) (Supplementary Fig. 2), gene name and gene acronyms in *Drosophila melanogaster* and *Homo sapiens*. Genes were considered significantly differentially expressed between adjacent queen stage if the adjusted p-value (adj.P) was less than 0.05.

File name: Supplementary Data 3

Description: Normalised read counts for *Macrotermes natalensis* across 25 samples (IDs in column headers 2-26). The final two columns contain information on known orthologs in *Drosophila melanogaster* (Dmel) and *Homo sapiens* (Hsap). Reads were mapped to the genome with Hisat2 (Kim et al. 2019), counts were generated with htseq-count (Anders et al. 2019) and reads were normalised with DESeq2 (Love et al 2014) (see methods for more details).

File name: Supplementary Data 4

Description: Differential expression summary. Contains standardised expression per caste and queen stage, orthology information in *Drosophila melanogaster* and *Homo sapiens*, and the results of each pairwise differential expression analysis. For example, in the column "T2_K" a T2 signifies a significant upregulation in QT2 compared to kings, a "K" means an upregulation in kings, and "notDE" means no significant difference in expression. Differential expression was calculated with DESeq2 (Love et al 2014).

File name: Supplementary Data 5

Description: Contains new annotations of the two ILP genes reported in this study. These genes were annotated in the *Macrotermes natalensis* genome using EXONERATE (v2.2.0, Slater et al. 2005).

File name: Supplementary Data 6

Description: Contains protein sequences for the newly annotated ILPs, contained in supplementary data 5